

OUR ADVERTISING DEPARTMENT
HAVING BEEN REPLEN-
ISHED with a large as-
ortment of the latest EUROPEAN
AND AMERICAN NOVELTIES,
we are prepared to execute
orders for FANCY WORK with
neatness and despatch, and at
very moderate rates.
CHINA MAIL OFFICE.

The China Mail.

Established February 1845.

No. 10,761.

號一十月八年七十九百八千一英

HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 11, 1897.

日四十月七年四丁

PRICE, \$2.50 PER MONTH.

Business Notices.

"NB" Norman Brown WHISKY.
Ten Years Old



Sold by LANE, CRAWFORD & Co., G. GIRAULT, at THOMAS'S GRILL ROOM, and all Retail Stores.

PERSEVERANCE LODGE OF HONGKONG, No. 1,165.
A Regular MEETING of the above LODGE will be held in the FREE-MASONS' HALL, Zetland Street, on MONDAY, the 10th August, at 5 for 5.30 p.m. previously. Visiting Brethren are cordially invited to attend.
Hongkong, August 10, 1897. 1587

H. F. CARMICHAEL,
Consulting Engineer and Surveyor,
18, PRAYA CENTRAL,
P EGS to announce that from this date he intends to carry on Business at the above address, and that he is prepared to supply DESIGNS and SPECIFICATIONS for all classes of ENGINEERING WORK. Repairs Supervised and Surveys Undertaken.
Hongkong, April 28, 1897. 840

EQUITABLE LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES.

JANUARY 1st, 1897.

Assets	\$45,181,238
Reserve Fund (4% Standard)	36,145,160
and all other liabilities	29,016,078
Surplus	\$19,046,264
Outstanding Assurance	\$220,622,934
New Assurance written, 1896	\$220,622,934

LIFE ASSURANCE is now within every man's reach at a cost which, in the result, if no claim arises, is either nominal or, according to the class of policy, yields a return equal to the best of safe investments. For full explanation and illustrations send date of birth to

SHEWAN, TOMES & CO.,
General Agents,
Hongkong, August 5, 1897. 1546

NOTICE.

MR. V. I. REMEDIOS, late Assistant to Mr. J. M. ARMSTRONG, deceased, begs to inform the GENERAL PUBLIC that he will as from this date carry on the Business of ATTORNEY and COMMISSION AGENT at the Premises known as No. 57, Queen's Road Central, formerly occupied by the said Mr. J. M. ARMSTRONG deceased.
Hongkong, August 4, 1897. 1583

LADIES' RECREATION CLUB.

BY kind Permission of Colonel GORDON and Officers of THE 1st BATTALION OF THE WEST YORKSHIRE REGIMENT, the BAND will play at the CLUB on FRIDAY EVENING Next, August 13th, at 8.15.
Hongkong, August 9, 1897. 1580

JUST UNPACKED.

A Fresh Consignment of best kind of FRUITS and FANCY TIN GOODS and Provision from Messrs. CROSS and BLACKWELL, and PHILIPPE and CANAUD.

Cutting and Packing COMPANY'S TIN FRUITS and other PROVISIONS, HUSTLEY and PARKER'S best kind of BISCUITS and MELLON'S FOOD, &c., &c., &c.


H. RUTTONJEE,
13, D'Almeida Street.

CEMENTIGHT.

A PAINT, non-conductor of Heat and Cold, impervious to dampness, and also fire proof.
Specially suitable for the covering of Buildings.
A protection against high and low temperatures.
A preserver of all kinds of Timber against insects.
An indispensable paint on Iron, Steel and every description of Plaster, Stone or Cement.
For further particulars apply to


ROBERTSON & CO.,
General Agents,
Hongkong, March 10, 1897.

ASK FOR FERGUSON'S
P. & O.
SPECIAL LIQUEUR, 10 YEARS OLD HIGHLAND WHISKY.
FERGUSON'S SPECIAL CREAM BREADALBANE HIGHLAND WHISKY.
These are the finest productions of Scotland devoid absolutely of all deleterious matter.
THE CREME DE LA CREME OF WHISKIES.
PURE AND MILD.
Sole Importers,
F. BLACKHEAD & Co.



THE HONGKONG HOTEL.
A FIRST CLASS HOTEL IN EVERY RESPECT.
GREAT IMPROVEMENTS: NEW APPOINTMENTS, REFRIGERATOR.
NEWLY FURNISHED: MUSIC ROOM, READING & WRITING ROOM, SMOKING ROOM.
MATRONS IN ATTENDANCE FOR LADIES.
1408

DEVONSHIRE CIDER.
A small Consignment on P. & O. s. s. Shanghai of Bental Lloyd & Co.'s famous Cider, bottled at Totnes.
Caldbeck, Macgregor & Co.,
Wine and Spirit Merchants.



FOR SALE.
J. & G. STODART'S
FINE OLD WEST OF SCOTLAND Whisky.
Dodwell, Carhill & Co.,
Praya Central,
Hongkong, March 23, 1897. 596

JAPANESE FINE ART CURIOS.
KUHN & KOMOR,
21 & 23, Queen's Road, Hongkong;
35, Waikato Street, Yokohama; and
88, Division Street, Kobe.

CHAS. J. GAUFF & Co.,
Diamonds, Watch & Clock Makers,
Jewellers, Gold & Silver Workers,
NATURAL SCIENTIFIC AND MECHANICAL INSTRUMENTS.
WATCHES, JEWELLERY, AND OTHER GOODS.
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REPAIRS, JEWELLERY, AND OTHER GOODS.

THE LIFE, LABOURS & DOCTRINES OF CONFUCIUS,
BY EDWARD HARPER PARKER,
Formerly H. M. Consul at Hongkong.
Peking First Edition.
ON SALE AT KELLY & WALSH, Ltd.

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NATURAL SCIENTIFIC AND MECHANICAL INSTRUMENTS.
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BELL'S ASBESTOS EASTERN AGENCY, Ltd.,
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Bell's Packings and Jointings are used by the British, French, Russian, Italian, Swedish and Spanish Navies, also by Principal English, Colonial and South American Railway Companies.
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NEW BOOKS AND NEW EDITIONS.
Chambers' Encyclopedia, 10 Volumes ... \$59.00
The Crime & the Criminal, by Max ... 1.35
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Siam, by Maxwell Sommerville ... 8.00
Tarantula (Valley), by W. G. Bantley ... 0.80
H. Golden Gold, by ... 2.00
A Story Teller's Pack, by F. R. ... \$1.00
Stockton ... 1.80
Bob Corning, by Gunter ... 1.30
A Frigate Captain, by Percy Lytle ... 1.30
Railway Engineering, Mechanical and Electrical, by H. ... 2.00
Chemical Analysis, 'Qualitative' by ... 8.00
A New Lot of Phototype Photographs, very choice, \$1.00 and \$2.50 each.

PENINSULAR & ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY
WILL dispatch VESSELS to the Undermentioned PORTS on the DATES named:-
FOR: SYDNEY, CAPTAIN, DATE.
LONDON, &c., ... E. H. DOWELL, R.N., Noon, 12th August.
JAPAN, ... O. H. S. TADOKU, R.N., Noon, 13th August.
LONDON, ... J. CHELSEA, R.N., About 19th August.
* See Special Advertisement.
For Freight or Passage, and further Particulars, apply to
P. & O. S. N. Co.'s Office. H. A. RITCHIE, Superintendent.
Hongkong, August 10, 1897. 1507

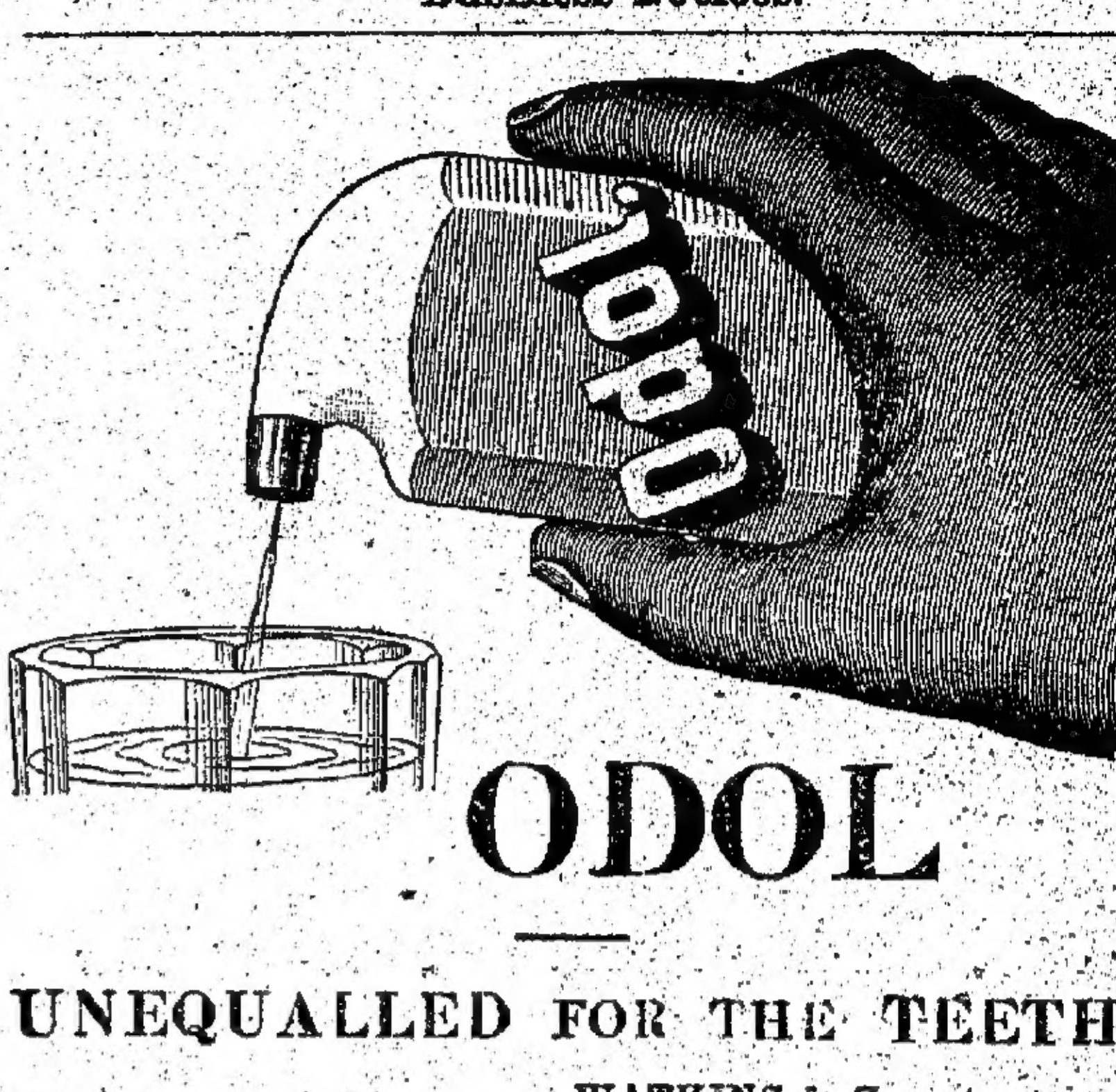
THE VICTORIA DISPENSARY, HONGKONG.
AERATED WATERS.
SIMPLE AERATED WATER, SODA WATER, LEMONADE, GINGER ALE, SASSAPARILLA, RASPBERRYADE, LITHIA WATER, LEMON SQUASH, &c.
OUR WATERS are made under the constant supervision of a duly qualified English Chemist, and will bear comparison with the best English Manufactures. Special terms to Hotels, Clubs, Messes and other Large Consumers. Any complaints should be addressed to the Manager. 1523

HONG KONG BUTCHERY
CENTRAL MARKET FOR BEEF MUTTON VEAL & PORK

SPARKLING BURGUNDY RED AND WHITE.
PER CASE OF 1 DOZEN QUARTS ... \$24.00
" 2 DOZEN PINTS ... \$28.00
H. PRICE & Co.,
(Late GANOE, PRICE & Co.)
Wine and Spirit Merchants,
No. 12, Queen's Road, Central.

W. POWELL & Co.
NEW STOCK OF LACE CURTAINS.
ART MESHES, COLONIAL CURTAINS, ARTIFICIAL FLOWERS, &c.
W. POWELL & Co.
HONGKONG, August 7, 1897.

Business Notices.
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UNEQUALLED FOR THE TEETH.
WATKINS & Co., Agents.



Green Island Cement Company Limited.
MANUFACTURERS OF
PAVING BRICKS, TILES, &c.
DRAIN-PIPES
FIRECLAY
WORKS, GREEN ISLAND, MACAO.
DEEP WATER BAY, HONGKONG.
SHEWAN, TOMES & CO., GENERAL MANAGERS, HONGKONG.

THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.
NOTICE is hereby given that the Ordinary Half-Yearly MEETING of the SHAREHOLDERS in this Corporation will be held at the City Hall, Hongkong, on SATURDAY, the 14th day of August, Next at Noon, for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Board of Directors, together with a Statement of Accounts to 30th June, 1897.
By Order of the Board of Directors,
T. JACKSON, Chief Manager.
Hongkong, July 24, 1897. 1484

THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.
NOTICE is hereby given that the REGISTERS of SHARES of the CORPORATION will be CLOSED from SATURDAY, the 31st July Current, to SATURDAY, the 14th day of August Next (both days inclusive), during which period no Transfer of Shares can be registered.
By Order of the Board of Directors,
T. JACKSON, Chief Manager.
Hongkong, July 24, 1897. 1486

Kinghorn & Macdonald,
General Mechanical Engineers
CONTRACTORS FOR THE SUPPLY OF ALL KINDS OF MACHINERY AND APPLIANCES.
SPECIFICATIONS, DESIGNS, and DRAWINGS prepared for all kinds of STEAMERS, MACHINERY, and BOILERS.
New Work and Repairs supervised. Estimates undertaken and Reports prepared.
Telegrams: "KINGHORN," Hongkong.
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JOHN W. KINGHORN,
M. I. M. E., M. I. Mech. E., London.
DONALD MACDONALD,
Hongkong, November 5, 1896. 8235

ROYAL STEAM BEING GALLERY, WEST POINT.
OPEN every EVENING (from 8 p.m. to 12 p.m.)
Exhibition of Pictures
Has a fascinating attraction for Old and Young, every Picture should be seen.
Hongkong, August 4, 1897. 1484

CHUN QUAN KEE
DEALER IN ALL WHOLESALE AND RETAIL
IVORY, Bamboo, Glass, Black-wood, Lacquer, and all kinds of Goods.
Sole and Agent, received from France, China, and other countries.
HONGKONG, August 1, 1897.

AMERICAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY.
NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.
THE Ordinary Half-Yearly MEETING of the SHAREHOLDERS will be held in the Offices of the Company, No. 14, Praya Central, on MONDAY, the 2nd August, at 12 o'clock, Noon, for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors and the Statement of Accounts to the 30th June, 1897, and of approving by Resolution of the general meeting, the statement to ERNO HALL, MASTER, Lot No. 1 on Terms to be stated.
The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 9th to the 23rd August, both days inclusive.
By Order of the Board of Directors,
THOS. I. ROSE, Secretary.
Hongkong, August 5, 1897. 1519

KELLY & WALSH, LTD.
NEW AND STANDARD WORKS
of all kinds of Machinery, Engines, and Boilers, by M. O. L. ... \$1.20
The Victoria Era, by P. A. Graham ... 1.10
The Life of Nelson, the Embodiment of Sea Power of Great Britain, by Captain Mahan, F. R. S. ... 20.00
Gleanings of Australia, depicting Scenes, Industries, and interesting Phases of Australian Life, with Concise Literary Descriptions, Vol. I. ... 10.00
A Treatise on Foreign Powers and Jurisdiction of British Goods, by W. R. Hall ... 8.00
International Law, by W. R. Hall ... 18.00
Lucky's Whiskies in Practical Navigation, by ... 12.00
From Kailash to Tibet, by Captain H. ... 12.00
Bryan's ... 12.00
Lessons of British Shipping and Losses of Australian Shipping, by ... 11.00
The ... 11.00
KELLY & WALSH, LTD.
Hongkong, August 1, 1897.

The M. M. steamer *Laos* carried the last mail from London to Singapore in three weeks.

Last night, Pollard's Lilliputians played H.M.S. *Pinagore* to a fairly large audience. The youngsters acquitted themselves well.

At the Magistracy to-day, before Mr H. E. Wodhouse, Police Magistrate, an inquiry was made into the circumstances attending the death of Frank Beckett, a bluejacket from the Torpedo Depot, Kowloon, whose body was found floating on the Godown Company's wharf at Kowloon on the 6th inst. Charles Evans, armourer, on the *Victor*, who found the body, said he last saw the deceased alive at nine o'clock on the evening of the 4th inst., leaving the Torpedo Depot with the intention of going to Hongkong. Inspector Hanson said the deceased must have come to grief between the Torpedo Depot and the ferry launch. It was possible for a man running along to catch the launch to fall over the Praya wall. The Magistrate returned a verdict of 'Found Drowned.'

The July number of *Cowell's Saturday Journal* contains the opening chapters of a new story by Marie Zimmernan, entitled, 'A Daughter's Ordeal.' This is an entrancing romance, with the opening scene in the town house of Don Jose de la Mota, situated at Kensington, and the plot, which has already developed considerably, is broken off at the most crucial point, a peculiar feature of serial stories. Another series of detective stories, entitled 'Handwriting, Frauds and Mysteries,' is commenced. The papers are based on the experiences of detectives engaged in unravelling great swindles and in a record of criminal penmanship and deeds done for greed of gold and revenge. 'A Chat with Phil May' gives a short history of the famous caricaturist and where he finds his humorous subjects. There is also the usual assortment of charity articles on popular subjects and notes on matters of general interest. *The Quiver* still retains its high standard of excellence for Sunday reading, and *Little Folks* shows improvement every month.

To be prepared for war is security for peace is an axiom which the military authorities of Hongkong keep well in mind. The Sanitary Administration have recognised the importance of maintaining the outposts of the British Empire in a state of menacing efficiency, and considering the improvements that have been carried out in recent years on the defences of this Colony, under the direction of the executive military officers, it seems hardly possible that any hostile fleet can obtain an entrance to the harbour. Special provisions are being made for defence against torpedo craft, and yesterday afternoon, on the invitation of H. E. Major-General Wilson Black, a select party, including H. E. Sir William Robinson, the Governor, Sir John Carrington, Chief Justice, the members of the Executive and Legislative Councils, the officers of the Hongkong Volunteer Corps, and several military officers, witnessed a Brenner torpedo run at Lyemun. The party embarked on the *Solent* at the Commissioners Pier, and steamed down to Lyemun Forts. The weather was lovely. We learn that the patent of Mr Brennan's invention was purchased at a cost of £110,000, while the inventor is retained in the service of the Government as Director of instruction in the principles of working the torpedo. The principal feature of the Brennan torpedo is that it can be steered from the fort during the whole of its course through the water, until it has accomplished its work. At yesterday's demonstration a target was towed behind the *Solent* as she steamed past the fort in the central channel. When the launch gained a position immediately opposite the torpedo tunnel slip the deadly engine emerged at an alarming speed, and appeared to be bearing down on the launch. All that was visible after the launch of the torpedo in the water was a short burst of very pliable steel, by which the officer in charge was able to steer. The torpedo bounded along through the water and passing close to the target at the rear of the launch, continued its course in a beautiful curve and then steered due West at a speed of about fourteen knots. The launch followed and picked up the torpedo where it had stopped through the exhaustion of its motive power. The torpedo is fish-shaped and about twelve feet in length, with brass conouson cap in front and brass propeller. The torpedo was taken in tow to the fort. An interesting mine explosion then took place, an old boat being blown to atoms. A large crowd of fishing boats pulled out immediately after the explosion, and an exciting competition took place for the fragments of the boat and several fish killed by the explosion. Another torpedo ran then took place, the officer in charge, to the amusement of the party on the launch, but with somewhat different feelings to the occupants of a small junk, steered the torpedo in the direction of that craft, and then dived the course when quite close upon it. The operations were carried out, under the superintendence of Colonel Ledale, by Captain Mould and Lieutenant Randall. The *Solent* then steamed back to Hongkong, a very enjoyable afternoon having been spent.

W. ROBINSON & Co., Piano and Musical Instrument specialists and experts. Vendors and Buyers of all kinds of Musical Instruments and Organs.

Two finalists in the Yokohama Lawn Tennis Handicap are Messrs H. Piskney and P. S. Bent.

Mrs J. T. Lauts, of Messrs Lauts, Wegener & Co., has joined the Board of Directors of the National Bank of China, Limited.

Messrs Benjamin, Kelly and Potts, in their weekly share report, state:—We understand that a Company is being formed for the erection of a Cotton Spinning Mill in this Colony, under the general management of Messrs Jardine, Matheson & Co., and that most of the shares are already underwritten.

The French barge *Engelstein* arrived to-day from Cardiff with a cargo of coal consigned to Messrs Melchers and Co. The barge was in collision on 24th July with the Dutch mail steamer *Spekman* and smashed up the bulwarks, demolished the wheel and destroying the steering gear of the steamer. The captain of the steamer was killed, and also three of the crew and two passengers, while three others were wounded. The damage to the *Engelstein* is comparatively slight considering the damage she inflicted upon the steamer. The bowsprit is smashed up and all the rigging of the bowsprit with the exception of the forestay has disappeared. Two planks are broken on the starboard side and three on the port side. None of the damage is below the water line, and consequently, none of the cargo has been jettisoned. The Captain has reported the occurrence to the French Consul, who will appoint two experts to report on the extent of the damage.

The *Mercury* states that the steamer *Plinius* of the Russian Navigation in the East line, became a total loss on a voyage from Vladivostok to Shanghai. The crew were saved.

Our old friend Capt. Lloyd of the Northamptonshire Regiment shot into the first reserve place for the Army Light for Biscuit with a grand score 342, the top place being held by G. S. Robinson, School of Musketry. —*Singapore Free Press*.

The enlistment of Formosan natives as soldiers will be put into operation next year. The system of recruitment to be adopted will be by means of a conscription bill, but will be partly based on the principle adopted by England in Egypt. By this means the number of men to be collected from each village is to be determined according to the population it contains. —*Japan Gazette*.

We believe it is now understood that Major Waco, R.A., D.S.O., does not come out again to Singapore, as Commanding the R.A. in this garrison. We have not heard of his promotion, although two officers junior to him have got their step. The impression seems to be that another officer will now come out to Singapore, possibly either Major Harvey, Major Blives, or Major Scott, when promoted. —*Singapore Free Press*.

The beer brewing industry in Japan has made steady progress, says the *Shanghai Shingpo*. Ten years ago the import of beer from Germany and other countries did not fall short of 400,000 gallons annually in value. Foreign beer, however, has been gradually displaced by the home-made liquor, and the amount of its importation does not now exceed 50,000 gallons in value. On the other hand, exports of Japanese beer now realize nearly 100,000 yen per annum, and when imported beer is subjected to the 25 per cent duty after the enforcement of the new tariff law, the import will doubtless be still further reduced.

Information from Ainy published in the *Yokohama Specimen*, is a question of great moment, requiring the fullest consideration both by the Government and people. The views held by the Governor-General's Office in Formosa condemn the adoption of the gold system, 'on the ground that, accustomed as the new territory is to the use of silver, any sudden change of currency would produce a detrimental to commerce and to the administration. It has been urged that Formosa, ought to be financially administered under a special system, or by the maintenance of the former standard. It is that end that the Government has decided to establish a conference having been held between the Finance and Colonization Departments, a decision was ultimately arrived at in favour of the adoption of gold monometallism. The new system will be enforced in the island from October 1st in the same way as in Japan.

A correspondent writes that at Wenhwei the Japanese troops are being rapidly reduced and that only a comparatively small garrison now holds the place. The forts are all dismantled and in ruins; expensive Krupp guns of large calibre, lying about, some of them and fractured by charges of dynamite and all thrown down and damaged in such a way as to be rendered utterly useless. One wonders why these costly cannon were not preserved, as it was the Japanese conquerors who destroyed them, not the Chinese, who simply 'put away' and left them lying there. One would have supposed that they could easily have been transported to Japan and used there to great advantage. These dismantled forts, which were quite new and had been built at great cost under foreign supervision, give out an impression of the desolation that war brings to a land, and a distressing sense of the impotence of the Chinese in the use of these modern modes of warfare and their utter helplessness as opposed to any European Power or a Power like Japan.

The thirty thousand men, in the mean while, although the aspect of affairs in the island is somewhat improved, are still in addition to the military force of the island, a large number of Chinese troops.

REUTERS' TELEGRAMS.

[Supplied to this 'CHINA MAIL']

LONDON, August 9.

General Asensio, the War Minister, temporarily succeeds Don Canovas as Prime Minister.

THE SUDAN CAMPAIGN.

Hunter's Column, which left Moravi on the 20th July, attacked Abu Hamad on the morning of the 7th instant, and captured the place after severe house-to-house fighting. Major Sidney and Lieut. Fitz-Clarence were killed.

[This is evidently Captain Henry Marlow Sidney, of the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry, who has been serving in the Egyptian Army for some years with the rank of major. He served in the Nile Expedition in 1884-85 with the 2nd Battalion Duke of Cornwall's L.I., and took part in the operations of the Advance Column under Major-General Egle (nephew of the Duke of Devonshire). The Lieut. Fitz-Clarence mentioned in the telegram is probably Lieut. Charles Fitz-Clarence, of the 2nd Battalion Royal Fusiliers (City of London Regiment), which has had many officers employed in the Sudan. There is a Lieut. Edward Fitz-Clarence in the 1st Battalion Dorsetshire Regiment.—E.M.]

Five thousand Mohmand tribesmen, who crossed the border into the Peshawar valley, have been repulsed by the British.

(L'Asien du Tonkin.)

THE PRESIDENT'S TOUR.

M. Felix Faure arrived at Grenoble yesterday, having visited Valence, Orange and Romans without incident. He goes in the evening to Modane, where he will assist at the alpine manoeuvres.

THE EMPEROR OF GERMANY.

The Emperor and Empress of Germany have embarked for Constantinople.

TERRIBLE DISASTER—200 WOMEN.

The baths at Kremenchuk (in Russia), where four hundred women were bathing, have been carried away by the floods. Two hundred of the bathers were drowned.

WEATHER NOTICE.

The following notice is issued from the Observatory:—

On the 11th at 11.30 a.m. The barometer has risen between Hongkong and Foochow, but pressure remains low on the coast and gradients steep. The depression appears to be now lying South of Kiangling on the Yangtze. Observations from the North are, however, not yet received. —Strong S.W. winds; squally, showery.

SUPREME COURT.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION. (Before His Hon. A. G. W. Paine, Judge.)

Tuesday, August 10.

KWONG CHEONG v. WONG KAT. The plaintiffs, a firm of fish dealers, near Macao, sued defendant, a fisherman, for \$222.30, money lent and monies paid on account of the loan in their own account books. Mr F. B. L. Bowley (of Mr Denny's Office) appeared for the plaintiffs; and Mr W. Shiao (instructed by Messrs Wilkinson and Grant) appeared for the defendant. The case was before the Court on 20th July, when defendant admitted owing \$170 and produced a book chopped by plaintiffs to prove that he had paid the balance of plaintiffs' claim, and his Lordship on that occasion gave judgment for the amount admitted only, and deprived plaintiffs of their costs.

The plaintiffs subsequently obtained an order for a further book chopped by plaintiffs to prove that he had paid the balance of plaintiffs' claim, and his Lordship on that occasion gave judgment for the amount admitted only, and deprived plaintiffs of their costs. The re-hearing of the case came on to-day. Cheong Pak, managing partner in plaintiffs' firm, proved that they had lent \$400 to defendant in 1894, to assist him in building a fishing junk, and that defendant in return agreed to sell them all the fish he caught. They took no acknowledgment from the defendant, but made entries of the loan in their own account books. In addition to this loan plaintiffs made numerous payments on defendant's account, and lent further money to him. The defendant admitted with part of the price against the 'small loans' account and paid him the balance. After a time defendant ceased to bring fish to plaintiffs' shop and failed to repay the monies lent. Plaintiffs found him in Hongkong in July last and took these proceedings for the balance of the various accounts, amounting to \$222.30.

The defendant, Wong Kat, admitted a loan of \$450, but put in a book purporting to be an account, chopped by the plaintiffs, of all loans, and of all fish supplied by him, and showing a balance due from him of \$170 only, which he paid into Court. He also called a witness to prove that the 'chop' on the book produced was the genuine 'chop' used by the plaintiffs. The plaintiffs stated the book and the 'chop' were pure fabrications.

Mr Shiao, in summing up the defendant's case, contended that plaintiffs had failed to discharge their burden of proof upon them of proving defendant's book to be a forgery, and suggested that plaintiffs had two sets of 'chops' using each set as occasion served. He would not disprove the plaintiffs' account books, but he submitted that it was highly improbable that an illiterate man like the defendant could have concocted the book he relied upon, which, if a forgery, was a marvellously skillful one. He asked for judgment on the admissions made by plaintiffs in accepting defendant's book.

His Lordship without calling upon Mr Bowley to reply, said that on the first hearing of the case, he considered the plaintiffs had failed to make out their case, but on the evidence now produced he held that the plaintiffs had proved their case, and gave judgment for the full amount of the claim, with costs.

Wags—How people put it in my new dress!—presume they wonder if I've been 'chopped' in 'Tait's' 'Herald'—they say they would if I was seen 'chopping' a 'Herald'.

THE TAIKOKU-TOGE, OR TEN PROVINCE PASS.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

Japan, August, 1897.

As 'Murray' is somewhat vague as to the Ten Province Pass, perhaps some of your readers may be interested in a few notes on the Pass as seen in the month of July.

After a good rest and most excellent entertainment from the gracious hosts of the Matsuzata Hotel at Moto, Hakone, where one can enjoy the placid view of the Lake and the magnificent views of Fujiyama and its reflection on the water, we started up the pass at 9 a.m., on a clear, sunny day, in chairs, some ladies being of the party. 'Murray' says: 'The climb is for the most part easy enough, and doubtless it is for pedestrian in good training during the winter months, but I would not advise anyone to try it during the summer. It can be done only in chairs or *kagos* in perfectly dry weather. While on the subject of chairs be it remarked there is room for very manifest improvement in the present style of chairs in use in the mountainous districts of Japan. The chair is the usual 'mountain chair' as used in Hongkong with a swing foot-rest, but the poles are five-inch bamboos about 9 to 12 feet long, minus the rigid flat cross-bar used by the Chinese. For the cross-bar a grass rope lashing is substituted. The chair is loosely slung on the poles on a level with the seat, and the whole affair is hoisted on the shoulders of four coolies, whose pace, even on level ground, is a decorous funeral walk. The winding mountain paths make short poles a necessity, but I would back four Hongkong Peak coolies, with their slings and poles, to negotiate any pass in Japan with better speed and a far greater degree of comfort to the passenger, who, under the present system, is slung in half gimbals after the manner of a ship's compass. Ladies declare that the sensation on one of the *Emperors* boats crossing from Shanghai to Nagasaki, with a beam sea and plenty of it, is Paradise compared with a Japanese mountain chair and four coolies with necessary good lungs, who grant in unison to encourage one another. What is wanted is an improvement on the present *kago*; something after the style of an Ashante hammock cot. There is money in it, if any of the enterprising hotel managers can strike the right thing. It should not be beyond the clever and energetic Mr Yanaguchi, of the far-famed Fujia Hotel, who has shown wonderful enterprise in adopting modern improvements at Myoanoshima, utilising a mountain stream to drive a turbine, which, in turn, drives a powerful dynamo supplying electric light to his large establishment.

But to return. The path up the first portion of the Taikoku-toge from the Hakone side is of the ridge pattern, with barely room for a single chair with the coolies inside the poles. These coolies grant more than a string of Egyptian camels, and shift shoulders with a shout every four steps, much to the discomfort of the victim in the chair. All the same, they are a merry, light-hearted, respectful set of fellows, these same coolies; no path seems rough or steep enough to destroy their good-humour, and the hint of *salute* at the end of a journey will keep them going in the face of all obstacles. But they must never be deterred from taking their meal when they so desire. Otherwise, they will collapse. Our last carried us like heroes, laughing and joking with one another, with only one half of half-an-hour for our tiffin and twenty minutes at a tea-house up the Atami side for the men's meal.

For several hundred feet above Hakone, the path wound round the hill slopes through dense thickets of dwarf bamboo and scrub, and then emerged on the open hillside, from whence we had a fine view of the Lake, with the crest of Fuji towering above the dense masses of white willow cumulus cloud surrounding the base. Proceeding, we passed two shallow mountain tarns, evidently extinct craters, one on each side of the path. Then came an abrupt descent for a couple of miles. Once again the path ascended, passing through scrub woods where the beautiful lilium autumnum, the *campanula*, *regalis*, *victoria* and other wild flowers delighted the eye. Another steep descent, where the path was like the bed of a torrent, full of rough stones, obliging us to get out and walk, and brought us out on a steep and grassy hillside where we called a halt for tiffin under a large blasted fir-tree. We were looking down on Izusan at about 11 a.m., having travelled very leisurely.

From this point the path led over grassy uplands, gradually ascending till the Ten Province Stone, on the summit of the Pass, was reached at 1 p.m.

The view was truly magnificent. The sky was cloudless, except round the base of Fuji. At our feet lay the fairest Province of the Land of the Rising Sun—Fuji's snow-capped crest towering above the clouds in the north-west, the mountains of Izumi on the west and Sagami Bay on the east, Cape Sagami visible in the 'distant distance' and the volcano on 'Vries Island' smoking on the south-east, while between and above was blue, intensely pale blue, sea and sky—the whole forming a picture never to be forgotten. At the Ten Province Stone, the aneroid showed 37.50, and on arriving at Atami Hotel 30.80. 'Murray' gives the height of the Pass as 2840 feet.

From this Ten Province Stone, the distance is said to be three miles into Atami. I can only say they were the longest miles I ever travelled. After passing the small mountain tarns on the Hakone side, there is no water to be found till a tea-house is reached some way down the Atami slope. Here the coolies usually have their meal. From here the temperature, hitherto pleasantly cool, began to increase rapidly as we got down the steep descent, and presently the murmur of running water struck pleasantly on the ear as we got into the region of paddy fields and woods, the sides of the path being literally carpeted with *Osmunda* and golden lilies.

We arrived at Atami at 4.30 p.m., having travelled very leisurely on the Atami account. I did not think much of the geyser at Atami, and the people there appeared to consider it a 'one-horse show'; but the Baths at the Higuchi Hotel are excellent, cuisine and wine list all that could be desired. This is the slack season at Atami; in the winter the place is crowded. There is a sandy beach and a surf breaks in the calmest weather. From Atami to Odawara there is a push tram. You can hire a whole car for yen 3.75. They are just like doll's carriages, and are pushed by four men round the most serpentine corners, and on the down gradients—which probably average about half the distance, and to be so convenient miles—very considerable speed. The journey to Odawara takes four hours, but there are many stoppages. The coast scenery is very beautiful, and the air soft and balmy, though rather hot at this time of the year, when the journey is made on a cloudless day.

Just one word of warning about the Province Pass. Never attempt it with ladies except in the driest weather. No chair coolie could preserve his foothold on the black earth paths when they are once wetted, and it would be sore work for pedestrians, though practicable.

N.B.—Don't forget to take water with you—Himeno for preference and usquebaugh to make it nice.

PINUS JAPONICA.

Messrs John D. Humphreys & Son, General Managers of Olivers Freshell Mines, Limited, inform us that they have received the following telegram from Australia:—'A crushing of 150 tons of quartz from "Eureka" has yielded 3½ ounces to the ton. Developments promise well.'

The following letters were received by the *Whitapoo*:—

OLIVERS FRESHELL MINES, LIMITED. Mount Macdonald, 16th July, 1897.

Eureka.—Good progressive work is being done at this mine, the main drives north at the 150 and 200 feet levels are being pushed ahead as speedily as possible, and also the main drive south at the 200 feet level. Stopping is being carried on at the back of both levels. This latter work can be carried on more extensively as soon as the new battery is erected, when we hope to treat at least double the quantity now being treated by the old inefficient battery. The drive north at the 200 feet level has been extended a total of 114 feet with lode in the end 10 feet wide and showing gold. The south drive is now 93 feet, and the reef 5 feet wide. This makes a total of 177 feet on the reef, and the whole of which will be treated by the new battery. At the 150 feet level the north drive has been extended to 63 feet and for some distance the reef in this drive has been small, but has widened out to 18 inches and is still improving in size, showing gold. 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NORTH BRITISH AND MERCANTILE INSURANCE COMPANY.

TOTAL FUNDS at 31st DECEMBER, 1895, £12,433,131.

Authorized Capital, £3,000,000.00. Subscribed Capital, £2,750,000.00. Paid-up Capital, £2,750,000.00. Fire Funds, £2,001,016.2.9.

HAVING been appointed AGENTS of the above Company we are prepared to accept EUROPEAN and CHINESE RISKS at current rates.

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Hongkong, July 23, 1896. 1647

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(Instituted in the Reign of Queen Anne A.D. 1714).

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By Mr. G. TAYLOR.

With WOODCOCK.

[Reprinted from the China Review.]

One of the Best Sketches of Formosa Life yet written.

May be had—Price, 1s.—at Messrs. LANE, CHAWFORD & CO., and Messrs. KELLY & WAH, LIMITED, Hongkong; also, Mr. N. MOALL, Amoy.

SHARE LIST—QUOTATIONS—AUGUST 11, 1897.

Stocks.	No. of Shares.	Value.	Paid-up.	Closing Quotations.
BANKS.				
Hongkong and Shanghai Bank Corp.	80,000	125	all	180 prem. = \$361.25, sales
Bank of China & Japan (preference shares)	39,950	62	6 nom.	and sellers
" ordinary	199,875	82	2 1/2 nom.	
" deferred	1,250	10	1 1/2	
National Bank of China, Limited	1,000	10	10	8 3/4
MARINE INSURANCES.				
Canton Insurance Office Co., Ltd.	10,000	95	50	\$180, sales
China Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.	24,000	83.33	25	\$78, sales and sellers
North-China Insurance Co., Ltd.	8,000	100	25	£120, buyers
Strait Insurance Co., Ltd.	30,000	100	25	\$174, buyers
Union Insurance Society, Ltd.	10,000	250	60	\$177, sales
Yonghe Insurance Association, Ltd.	5,000	100	100	
FIRE INSURANCES.				
China Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.	20,000	100	20	\$107, sales
Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.	8,000	250	60	\$360, sales and buyers
DOCKS.				
H'kong & Whampoa Dock Co., Ltd.	12,500	125	all	738 prem. = \$422.25, sales
STEAMSHIPS.				
China and Malacca S. S. Co., Ltd.	5,000	50	all	\$70, sales and sellers
Douglas Steamship Co., Ltd.	20,000	50	all	\$97, sales and sellers
E. C. & M. Steamship Co., Ltd.	80,000	10	all	\$60, sales and sellers
Indo-China S. N. Co., Ltd.	20,000	10	all	\$27, buyers
China Mutual S. N. Co., Ltd.	20,000	10	all	\$22, buyers
DO.				
(new issue)	20,000	10	all	\$145, sales and buyers
CHINA SUGAR COMPANY, LIMITED.	20,000	100	all	\$47, sales
WATERWORKS.				
H. K. & Kw. Water & Gas Co., Ltd.	20,000	50	all	\$64, ex div., sales
WATERWORKS AND STORAGE COMPANY, LIMITED.	2,000	100	all	\$74, sales
LAND AND BUILDING.				
Hongkong Land Investment and Agency Company, Limited	50,000	100	50	\$75, sales and sellers
Kowloon Land and Building Company, Limited	6,000	50	50	\$19
Hampshire Estate & Finance Co., Ltd.	25,400	10	all	\$93, sales and sellers
West Point Building Co., Limited	12,500	50	40	\$24, sales
TRADING.				
H. K. High-Low Trading Co., Ltd.	1,250	100	all	\$113, sales
MINEING.				
Jelebu Mining & Trading Co., Ltd.	40,000	5	all	\$2.10, buyers
New Panjin Mining Co., Ltd.	60,000	4	all	\$6.50, sales and sellers
Preference shares	30,000	1	all	\$2
Société Française des Charbons	12,000	500	all	\$30, sales
Agence du Tonkin	10,000	1	all	\$1.70, sales and sellers
New Balmoral Mining Co., Ltd.	70,000	1	all	\$1.80, sales
Preference shares	30,000	1	all	\$2
Rambaut Gold Mining Co., Ltd.	30,000	1	all	\$2.20, sales
Others Freehold Mines Ltd.	1,000	5	all	\$20, sales
PLANTING, ETC.				
China-Borneo Company, Ltd.	10,000	100	all	60 com.
H. G. Brown & Co., Limited, in liq.	6,000	50	all	in liq.
ROTELLS, ETC.				
Hongkong Hotel Company, Ltd.	12,000	60	all	\$61, sales and sellers
DRUGGIST.				
A. S. Watson & Co., Limited	80,000	1	all	\$12.50, sales and buyers
LIGHTING.				
H. K. and China Gas Co., Limited	7,000	10	all	\$1.10, buyers
Hongkong Electric Co., Limited	30,000	10	all	\$9.25, sales and buyers
BRICK AND CEMENT.				
Green Island Cement Co., Ltd.	20,000	10	all	\$30, ex now issue
MISCELLANEOUS.				
Ball's Abstracts Eastern Agency, Ltd.	3,000	2	all	\$1.21, sales
Campbell, Moore & Co., Limited	1,000	1	all	\$1.85, sales
Geo. Fenwick & Co., Limited	3,000	2	all	\$2.38, sales
Hongkong Dairy Company, Ltd.	800	1	all	\$33, buyers
Hongkong Bakery Farm Co., Ltd.	10,000	5	all	\$35, sales
Hongkong Ice Company, Limited	5,000	2	all	\$11.35, sales
H'kong Rope Manufacturing Co., Ltd.	5,000	1	all	\$17.14, sales and buyers
Myo Cotton Spinning and Weaving Co., Ltd.	10,000	10	all	\$100, sales and buyers
Interracial Cotton Manufacturing Co., Ltd.	10,000	10	all	\$100, sales and buyers
Leong-King-Mow Cotton Spinning and Weaving Co., Ltd.	8,000	10	all	\$100, sales and buyers
Cornwall & Co., Ltd.	2,000	10	all	\$20, sales
Boy Chee Cotton Spinning Co., Ltd.	2,000	10	all	\$100, sales

Intimations.

THE CHINA & JAPAN TELEPHONE COMPANY, LIMITED.

HONGKONG EXCHANGE, OPEN DAY AND NIGHT.

LIST OF EXCHANGE SUBSCRIBERS.

No. A.

129.—Aberdeen, Paper Mills Office.

130.—Aberdeen, Paper Mills.

40.—Anderson, Capt., East Point.

24.—Anderson, Capt., Fraga Central.

3.—Arnold, Kargong, Fraga Central.

147.—Babington, A., Residence.

187.—Baker's Engineering Agency.

168.—Beck, J. M., Residence.

145.—Bel Air, Residence.

172.—Benjamin S. S., Residence.

148.—Benjamin, Kelly & Potts.

70.—Beurmann O., Residence.

66.—Blackhead & Co.

139.—Blackhead & Co., Soap Factory.

130.—Blackhead & Co., Soap Factory.

65.—Blackhead, F., Residence.

13.—Boning, G. D., Residence.

96.—Bradley & Co.

154.—Briek Co., Deep Water Bay.

122.—Bumie, & Goddard Capt.

35.—Butterfield & Swire, Peak Residence.

36A.—Do, do, Quarry Bay.

18.—Do, do, Shipping Office.

36.—Do, do, Sugar Office.

75.—Caldbeck, Macgregor & Co.

42.—Canadian Pacific Railway Co.

130.—Canton Insurance Co.

133.—Carmichael & Co.

134.—Carmichael H. F., Residence.

162.—Chai On Insurance Co.

128.—Chai On Insurance Co.

22.—China Mail Office.

180.—China Merchants Office.

72.—China Sugar Refinery, East Point.

71.—Do, do, Town Office.

160.—Chow Tung Shing, Residence.

183.—Cobbold, Rev. R. F., Residence.

163.—Colonial Secretary's Office.

163.—Comptroller's Residence, Peak.

163.—Comptroller's Residence, Peak.

87.—Comptroller, D. Laprak & Co., Office.

88.—Do, do, Residence.

78.—Cousins, J. B., Office.

145.—Club, Gossard.

11.—Club, Hongkong.

116.—Do, Lushan.

10.—Do, Peak.

12.—Daily Press Office.

85.—Daily Press Office.

67.—Daily Press, Pok-fu-lum.

121.—Daly, W.

73.—David, A. J., Residence.

60.—David & Co.

123.—Detective Dept., (Chinese).

20.—Dock Co.

30.—Do, Clark, Residence.

2.—Do, Hartigan, Stedman and Rennie.

23.—Do, Jordan, Office.

43.—Do, Residence.

159.—Do, Paulan Office.

177.—Do, Paulan, Residence.

182.—Do, Rennie, Residence.

55.—Do, Stedman, Residence.

102.—Do, Thomson, Office.

163.—Do, Residence.

41.—Dodwell, Carill & Co.

17.—Douglas Laprak & Co.

Intimations.

58.—Electric Co.

58A.—Electric Co., Residence.

142.—Fenwick, Geo. & Co.

74.—Fletcher & Co.

48.—Gas Co., East Point.

157.—Do, West Point.

40.—Gump & Co.

31.—Gibb, Livingston & Co.

44.—Government House.

193.—Gray, R. M., Residence.

156.—Hall, F. W., Residence.

171.—Hancock A., Residence.

50.—Harbour Master.

99.—Harting, Buschmann & Menzell.

86.—Harting, C., Residence.

95.—Haskell, D., Residence.

92.—Hermann, O., Residence.

113.—Him Kee & Co.

27.—Holiday, Wise & Co.

101.—H. O. & M. S. Co., Office.

102.—H. O. & M. S. Co., Wharf.

125.—Hongkong Fire Insurance Co.

3.—H. & S. Bank.

84.—H. & S. Bank, Mess.

1.—Hongkong Telegraph Office

HOSPITALS.

26.—Hospital, Alice Memorial.

80.—Do, Government Civil.

115.—Hospital, Netherlands.

3.—Do, Peak.

110.—Hospital, Peak.

175.—Do, Peak, Wah.

HOTELS.

32.—Hotel, Hongkong.

34.—Do, Mount Austin.

141.—King's Hotel, Macdonald.

120.—Kirk & Co.

151.—Krus & Co.

108.—Kow Hong Tak.

185.—Kelly & Walsh.

185A.—Do, Book Binding Dept.

64A.—Kennedy, J., Causeway Bay.

84.—Do, do, Home Repository.

107.—Kin Fat Hong.

141.—King's Hotel, Macdonald.

120.—Kirk & Co.

151.—Krus & Co.

108.—Kow Hong Tak.

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